



FOR

## GA MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLS

### Changes in Staff

Many of you are aware that late in the spring Georgia Student Finance Commission underwent a reorganization due to budgetary constraints. As part of that, our division's name was changed to K-12 Student and School Services and GAcademy411, and the size of our staff was reduced. We have eight staff that travel across the state and conduct presentations for students and parents. The staff members are:

Linda Attebery  
Carra Floyd  
Thomas Flythe  
Carol Ann Lott  
Thomas Meunier  
Darryl Watson  
Hal Wilkinson

We are pleased to announce that effective September 16th, Collyn Weinberg-Alford will be joining our staff. Collyn joins us from Chattahoochee High School where she was the Coordinator of the College and Career Center.

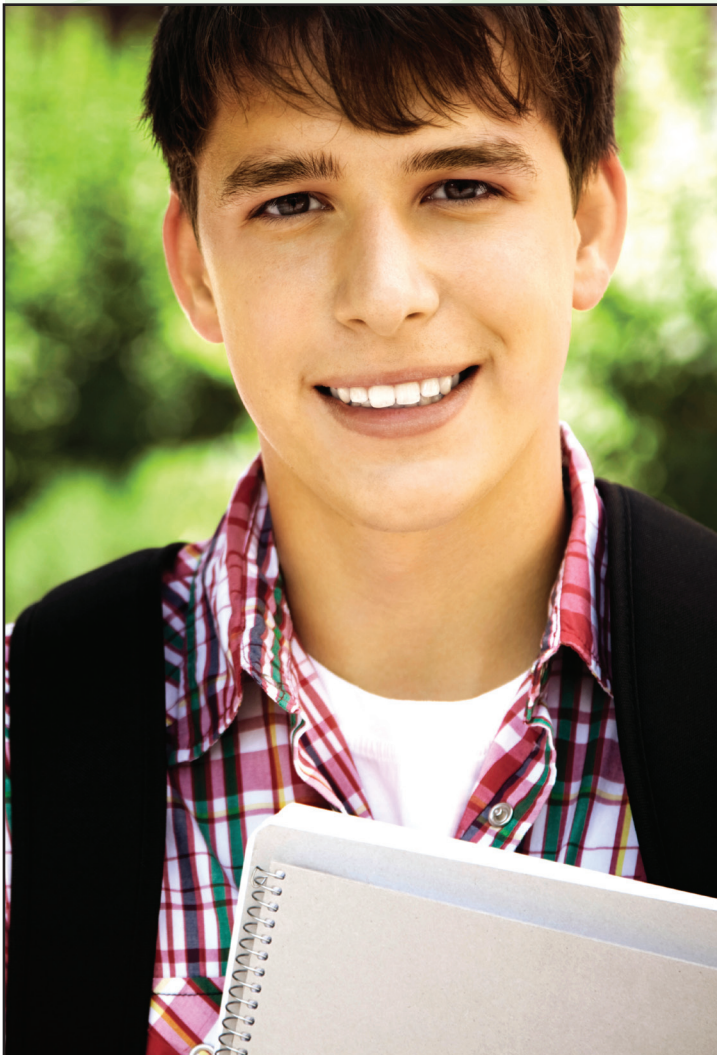
### Requesting Presentations

We are excited that so many of you have requested presentations from our staff. Please remember when requesting a presentation to give us as much notice as possible. Because we now have a smaller staff, many dates are already full with everyone booked at other schools. We want to accommodate everyone, but sometimes it is not physically possible. Thank you for your assistance with requesting dates for GSFC to come to your school.

September 2010

1

Issue # Ten



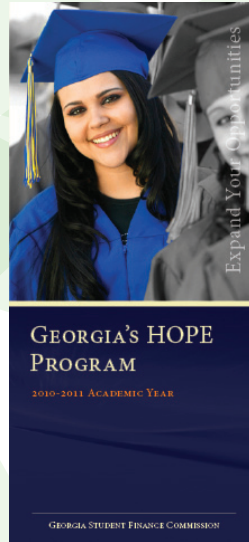
## September Monthly Focus

The monthly focus for September is on helping students identify the college they want to attend. You'll notice a new image on the home page that directs students to the "College Planning" tab to research colleges.

# GA MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLS

## HOPE Brochures are Coming!

Typically you receive a supply of HOPE brochures for your high school in August. This year we were delayed in printing the brochures and they are currently being mailed to each high school. If you have placed an order for HOPE brochures, they will not be included until after all the high schools have received their initial mailing. If you need more after you receive the first mailing, please feel free to order them, however, we do ask that you only order as many as you need.



## Ordering Brochures, Posters and More....

You can order brochures, flyers, posters and more at the [Gacollege411.org](http://Gacollege411.org) website. You can select the order form from the "Middle School and High School Educators" link at the bottom of the [Gacollege411.org](http://Gacollege411.org) website, or you can select the "Communications" link and access the order form from that page. Please note that we only mail out orders once a week. If you need something quickly, please email [clientservices@gsfc.org](mailto:clientservices@gsfc.org) and we will try to get your order to you more quickly or prepare it so you can pick it up.

## PROBE Fairs and Counselor Workshops

We look forward to seeing many of you at the PROBE Fairs and Counselor Workshops that begin later this month. You'll notice there is information on the home page of [www.gacollege411.org](http://www.gacollege411.org) about the PROBE Fairs. Please encourage your students to attend and learn more about their opportunities after high school!

## TRAINING SESSIONS

We have added two additional Professional Center face to face training sessions for October.

October 8th at 9:00am  
Athens Technical College,  
Athens - [Register](#)

October 29th at 8:30am  
Golden Isles Career  
Academy, Brunswick -  
[Register](#)

We have two upcoming webinars as well.

September 15th at 3:00pm  
Professional Center Basics  
[Register](#)

October 6th at 3:00pm  
Bridge Legislation and  
Gacollege411 - [Register](#)

*All webinars are being recorded so you can view them at a later time.*

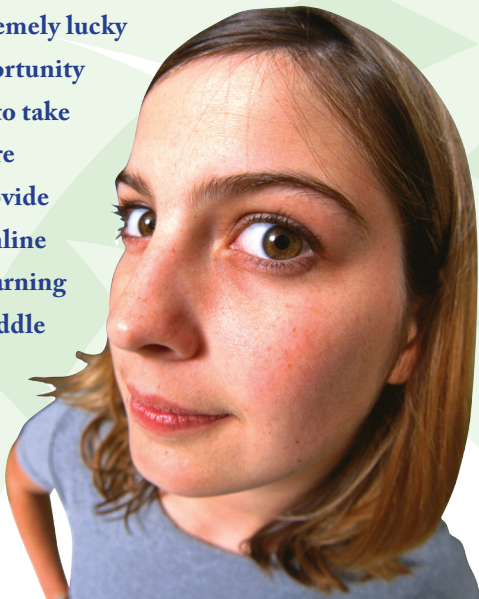
# GA MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLS

## Are you looking for Professional Learning Opportunities?

Georgia is extremely lucky to have an opportunity for counselors to take modules that are intended to provide high quality, online professional learning for certified middle grades and high school counselors to improve their effectiveness in preparing all students for college and careers as well as postsecondary enrollment professionals to improve their effectiveness in working with students to enroll in college and apply for financial aid. The modules include strategies for advising all students – particularly first generation college students from low-income families.

Modules include practical reading assignments, online and off-line activities, virtual counselor scenarios, assistance in building a resource bank that counselors can incorporate immediately into their work with students, and a culminating project appropriate for use in resumes. The modules do not have pre-requisites, so participants are not required to take all three 8-week modules.

The modules are designed for participants to receive Professional Learning Units (PLUs) for the individual modules. Each module includes eight 1-week sessions that require an average of about 5 hours per week to complete. Participants who complete a module will earn four PLUs or four CEU's.



The next session will begin on October 4th, 2010. To find out more information and register for the courses, please visit: <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/collegeaccess.html>.

All interested educators (whether they are or are not college/career advisors or financial aid professionals) are welcome to enroll in the modules yet are encouraged to review module content to determine usefulness. Each 8-week module is \$100 each and can be paid through several sources such as by the individual or through state or local professional development funds, Perkins Funds, or stimulus funding.

## Final Thoughts

If you have any suggestions for improvements, please send them to me at [sarahb@gsfc.org](mailto:sarahb@gsfc.org). We're always interested in what you have to say!

Sarah Baumhoff  
Division Director, K-12 School & Student  
Services, GACollege411  
Georgia Student Finance Commission